**Reviewer Evaluation Checklist**

**Strongly Disagree**

**Strongly Agree**

**Not Applicable**

**First read-through:**

**1 2 3 4 5**

S Disagree S Agree NA

* Is it clear what the authors want to communicate and the direction of the manuscript? \_\_\_\_\_\_
* Is it reporting original research or is it another type of article? How does this change your report? \_\_\_\_\_\_
* What contribution does the article make to the field of study? \_\_\_\_\_\_
* Is the manuscript original? \_\_\_\_\_\_
* Is the overall study design and approach appropriate? \_\_\_\_\_\_
* Are you concerned about the language? Are revisions needed to make it possible to review? \_\_\_\_\_\_

**Comments:**

**Detailed review – Research articles:**

**Title:**

**1 2 3 4 5**

S Disagree S Agree NA

* Does it express clearly what the manuscript is about? \_\_\_\_\_
* Does it highlight the importance of the study? \_\_\_\_\_\_
* Does it contain any unnecessary description? \_\_\_\_\_\_

**Comments:**

**Abstract:**

**1 2 3 4 5**

S Disagree S Agree NA

* Is it a short and clear summary of the aims, key methods, important findings and conclusions? \_\_\_\_\_\_
* Does it include enough information to stand alone? \_\_\_\_\_\_
* Does it contain unnecessary information? \_\_\_\_\_\_

**Comments:**

**Introduction:**

**1 2 3 4 5**

S Disagree S Agree NA

* Does it clearly summarize the current state of the topic? \_\_\_\_\_\_
* Does it address the limitations of current knowledge in this field? \_\_\_\_\_\_
* Does it clearly explain why the study was necessary? \_\_\_\_\_\_
* Does it clearly define the aim of the study and is this consistent with the rest of the manuscript? \_\_\_\_\_\_
* Is the research question clear and appropriate? \_\_\_\_\_\_

**Comments:**

**Methods:**

**1 2 3 4 5**

S Disagree S Agree NA

* Are the study design and methods appropriate for the research question? \_\_\_\_\_\_
* Is there enough detail to repeat the experiments? \_\_\_\_\_\_
* Is it clear how samples were collected or how participants were recruited? \_\_\_\_\_\_
* Is there any potential bias in the sample or in the recruitment of participants? \_\_\_\_\_\_
* Are the correct controls/ validation included? \_\_\_\_\_\_
* Are any potential confounding factors considered? \_\_\_\_\_\_
* Has any randomization been done correctly? \_\_\_\_\_\_
* Is the time-frame of the study sufficient to see outcomes? \_\_\_\_\_\_
* Is there sufficient power and appropriate statistics? \_\_\_\_\_\_
* Do you have any ethical concerns? \_\_\_\_\_\_

**Comments:**

**Results:**

**1 2 3 4 5**

S Disagree S Agree NA

* Are the results presented clearly and accurately? \_\_\_\_\_\_
* Do the results presented match the methods? \_\_\_\_\_\_
* Have all the relevant data been included? \_\_\_\_\_\_
* Is there any risk of patients or participants being identified? \_\_\_\_\_\_
* Is the data described in the text consistent with the data in the figures and tables? \_\_\_\_\_\_

**Comments:**

**Discussion and conclusion:**

**1 2 3 4 5**

S Disagree S Agree NA

* Do the authors logically explain the findings?
* Do the authors compare the findings with current findings in the research field? \_\_\_\_\_\_
* Are the implications of the findings for future research and potential applications discussed? \_\_\_\_\_\_
* Are the conclusions supported by the data presented? \_\_\_\_\_\_
* Are any limitations of the study discussed? \_\_\_\_\_\_
* Are any contradictory data discussed? \_\_\_\_\_\_

**Comments:**

**Tables and figures:**

**1 2 3 4 5**

S Disagree S Agree NA

* Are data presented in a clear and appropriate manner? \_\_\_\_\_\_
* Is the presentation of tables and figures consistent with the description in text? \_\_\_\_\_\_
* Do the figure legends and table headings clearly explain what is shown? \_\_\_\_\_\_
* Do the figures and tables include measures of uncertainty, such as standard error or confidence intervals, where required as well as the sample size? \_\_\_\_\_\_
* Do you have any concerns about the manipulation of data? \_\_\_\_\_\_

**Comments:**

**References:**

**1 2 3 4 5**

S Disagree S Agree NA

* Are there any key references missing? \_\_\_\_\_\_
* Do the authors cite the initial discoveries where suitable? \_\_\_\_\_\_
* Are there places where the authors cite a review but should cite the original paper? \_\_\_\_\_\_
* Do the cited studies represent current knowledge? \_\_\_\_\_\_

**Comments:**

**Peer review of non-research articles:**

**1 2 3 4 5**

S Disagree S Agree NA

Many of the same questions will be relevant to all articles. However, articles which do not present original research are unlikely to have a methods section and results but may be more focused on the discussion of a topic. Check the article type and journal requirements if you are unsure.

Here are some questions to consider for some non-research article types.

**Systematic reviews:**

**1 2 3 4 5**

S Disagree S Agree NA

* Are the search terms and inclusion/ exclusion criteria clearly described? \_\_\_\_\_\_
* Are the search terms and criteria correct to ensure all the relevant articles are included? \_\_\_\_\_\_
* If a meta-analysis has been done, were previous studies combined appropriately? \_\_\_\_\_\_

**Comments:**

**Methodology articles:**

**1 2 3 4 5**

S Disagree S Agree NA

* Is the new method clearly described? \_\_\_\_\_\_
* Is it possible to replicate the new method? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_
* Is there a rationale for why the new method is needed? \_\_\_\_\_\_
* Is the new method compared to existing approaches? \_\_\_\_\_\_
* Usually there should not be any experimental results, other than to demonstrate the utility of the methods. \_\_\_\_\_\_

**Comments:**

**Review articles:**

**1 2 3 4 5**

S Disagree S Agree NA

* Is there any content which has been previously presented in a review? \_\_\_\_\_\_
* Does it focus on recent advances in research? \_\_\_\_\_\_
* Is it a balanced and unbiased overview of current understanding? \_\_\_\_\_\_
* Are any recent or important references missing? \_\_\_\_\_\_
* Is it too focused on the author’s own research? \_\_\_\_\_\_
* Is the interpretation and presentation of results of previous studies accurate and precise? \_\_\_\_\_\_
* Has it a valuable contribution to the research field? \_\_\_\_\_\_
* Is it understandable for non-expert readers? \_\_\_\_\_\_

**Comments:**

**Opinion articles (also called Editorials or Commentaries):**

**1 2 3 4 5**

S Disagree S Agree NA

* Does the article add to the discussion on a research topic? \_\_\_\_\_\_
* Is the opinion of the author well-argued? \_\_\_\_\_\_
* Is the opinion based on current knowledge, or if it makes a big leap from current knowledge then is this logical? What supports the opinion presented? \_\_\_\_\_\_

**Comments:**